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Subject: Seaway Pipeline (Enterprise and Enbridge venture) Blue Ridge, TX (Trenton)
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FYI

In Tiny Blue Ridge, Texas, Oil Spill Is Cautionary Tale Against Dakota Access Pipeline

Escaping substantive media attention, a pipeline with Dakota Access links recently spewed 600,000 gallons of oil equal to 14,285 barrels.

By [Tony Cantu \(Patch Staff\)](#) - February 13, 2017 8:47 am ET

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BLUE RIDGE, TX — A recent oil spill in Northeast Texas that largely escaped media notice has given new fodder to opponents of the Dakota Access Pipeline, given new life by President Trump via executive order approving its construction.

On Jan. 30, an estimated [600,000 gallons](#), or 14,285 barrels' worth, of oil spewed out of Enbridge's [Seaway Pipeline](#) in Blue Ridge, Texas, according to Desmog, a website devoted to climate science issues. The rupture is the [second spill since the pipeline opened for business](#) in mid-2016, according to Desmog.

So how does this relate to the controversial Dakota Access pipeline?

"Seaway is half owned by [Enbridge](#) and serves as the final leg of a pipeline system [DeSmogBlog](#) has called the '[Keystone XLClone](#),' which carries mostly [tar sands](#) extracted from Alberta, Canada, across the U.S. at a rate of 400,000 barrels per day down to the Gulf of Mexico," Desmog reports.

Moreover, Enbridge is an equity co-owner of the [Dakota Access Pipeline](#), which received its [final permit needed](#) from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on Feb. 7 to construct the pipeline across the Missouri River, and [construction has resumed](#), the climate science news site reported.

The Dakota Access Pipeline, or Bakken pipeline, is a 1,172-mile-long (1,886 km) underground [oil pipeline](#) project in the United States. The route begins in the [Bakken](#) shale oil fields in northwest [North Dakota](#) and travels in a more or less straight line southeast, through [South Dakota](#) and [Iowa](#), terminating at the oil tank farm near [Patoka, Illinois](#).

Plans for the Dakota Access Pipeline opened the floodgates of protest, particularly among indigenous people in the area decrying the desecration of sacred lands that would occur with its construction. After months of review and protests, the [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers](#) rejected an easement application needed by Houston-based Energy Transfer Partners to cross under the Missouri River and complete the pipeline through four states, as the Seattle Times reported at the time.

Native Americans rejoiced in what they described as a "historic victory." But then Trump secured the presidency, and his surrogates telegraphed his plans to renew the project. Speaking to CBS News in November, Energy Transfer Partners chairman [Kelcy Warren](#) said that it would be "100 percent that the easement gets granted and the pipeline gets built" when Trump took office Jan. 20. Four days after being inaugurated, Trump made good on his pledge, signing an executive order on Jan. 24 to advance the pipeline's construction. The order would serve to expedite environmental review Trump described as an "incredibly cumbersome, long, horrible permitting process."

On Feb. 7, the Corps of Engineers granted the final required easement under Lake Oahe, allowing the pipeline to be completed.

Back to Texas.